UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

UNDP

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Agenda item 6 (b)

Country and intercountry programming and projects

COUNTRY PROGRAMME OF THE GOVERNMENT OF

VIET NAM

Note by the Administrator

Programme period	IPF for 1977-1981
1977-1981	$44 million

I. Nature of the programming exercise

1. Following reunification of the country, a UNDP programming mission was invited to Viet Nam in November 1976. Projects for the full amount of the IPF were identified and subsequently formulated during 1977 and 1978 by the United Nations system organizations concerned. Programming was co-ordinated by UNDP Headquarters until the UNDP office in Hanoi was opened in January 1978. The first two projects, VIE/76/002- National Institute of Agricultural Sciences and VIE/76/105 - Building Sites, Surveying and Investigations, were approved by the Governing Council at its January 1978 meetings. 1/

1/ DP/PROJECTS/R.9/Add.7 and Add.8

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2. The country programme was formulated pari passu with the identification, appraisal, and approval of projects, thus allowing speedy implementation of the programme. The country programme was drawn up in 1979 by the Government in consultation with the Resident Representative, and in full collaboration with all United Nations system organizations. Since almost the entire IPF had already been committed by then, a further extensive programming exercise was not required.

II. Relation of the country programme to national development objectives

3. The country programme coincides for four of its five years with the National Development Plan.(1976-1980).

National development objectives

4. The following priority tasks are identified in the Plan:

(a) Achieve self-sufficiency in food;

(b) Develop industrial production (consumer goods and food);

(c) Improve organization and management of the work force;

(d) Undertake socialist transformation in the southern part of the country and improve relations between the productive forces in the north;

(e) Improve the quality and distribution of goods;

(f) Rehabilitate and expand transport and communications;

(g) Increase exports (agricultural and light industry products);

(h) Develop educational, health and other social services;

(i) Intensify the training of cadres and skilled workers;

(j) Introduce a new nation-wide economic management system; and

(k) Intensify family planning activities.

Role of UNDP assistance

5. The Government relies first and foremost on its own resources to carry out the above tasks. Bilateral donors and United Nations system organizations have been contributing significantly with goods and services. UNDP has been asked by the Government to assist in the fields of agriculture, fisheries and forestry, water resources, transport, and industrial services and research, reflecting the development priorities of the Government.

6. A number of important institutes and laboratories are not able to carry out research and investigations effectively in the above-mentioned fields because of the lack of modern equipment and supplies and the ability to use them. The Governmen

therefore wishes to concentrate the majority of UNDP assistance in improving these facilities through the provision of suitable equipment, expertise to assist in the installation and initial operation, and programmes to train personnel in the new technologies. In the field of civil aviation, equipment will be required to improve safety in approach and landing operations with expert services to provide in-service training.

7. A characteristic of the programme is that it concentrates on a limited number of sectors and consists of a few relatively large projects. This reflects the Government's view on the most effective use of UNDP funds during this cycle and its desire for rapid implementation of the programme.

III. Content and phasing of the country programme

8. Since this is the first country programme for the unified Viet Nam, all projects are new, and there has been no previous experience on which to draw. The Government and UNDP have, however, been reviewing experience since the inception of the programme with a view to identifying ways of increasing the effectiveness of projects. The projects have been designed to be completed during the present country programme period.

Table 1

Sectoral breakdown of programmed resources

	Value ($000)	Per cent
Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	18 897	38.5
Human settlements	14 002	28.5
Natural resources (water)	9 253	18.9
Transport and communications	3 887	7.9
Industry	2 638	5.4
Programme missions	43	0.1
Reserve	360	0.7
Total programmed	49 080	100.0

Table 2

Functional typology of projects

Category	Number of projects	Value ($000)
Institution-building	13	37 816
Direct support	4	10 861
Subtotal	17	48 677
(Programme missions		43)
(Reserve		360)
(Total		49 080)

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Table 3

Phasing of the country programme

A. Amounts programmed

Year	($000)
1977 (actual)	354
1978 (actual)	12 909
1979	15 000
1980	15 197
1981	5 620
Total	49 080

B. Resources taken into account for programming

IPF 1977-1981	44 000
Carry-over from previous IPF	5 080
Total available for programming	49 080

IV. Recommendation of the Administrator

9. In the light of the views expressed above, the Administrator recommends that the Governing Council:

(a) Approve the proposed UNDP country programme for Viet Nam for the duration of its programme period within the limits of its Indicative Planning Figure for 1977-1981, taking into account the balance of over-expenditure or under-expenditure of its 1972-1976 Indicative Planning Figure; and

(b) Authorize the Administrator to proceed with appraisal and approval action on requests for assistance falling within the outlines of the country programme while ensuring, in accordance with the decision of the Governing Council at its eighteenth session (E/5543/Rev.1, paragraph 31), that expenditures are kept in reasonable conformity with the relevant Indicative Planning Figures and are contained within the financial resources available at any given time.

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